

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00

PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 DHA-02 /032 W

-----034551 131240Z /53

R 130840Z JUL 77

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9749

INFO AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMCONSUL MUNICH

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, CSCE, SHUM

SUBJECT: A REPORT ON GEORGIY VINS, UNOFFICIAL SOVIET CHURCH GROUPS

REF: 76 MOSCOW 15361

1. REV PAUL DEMETRUS, A SAN FRANCISCO-BASED ASSEMBLY OF GOD MINISTER WHO TERMS HIMSELF A MISSIONARY TO THE USSR AND WHO IS INVOLVED IN RUSSIAN-LANGUAGE RELIGIOUS BROADCASTS VIA SEVERAL COUNTRIES, PARTICULARLY PORTUGAL, CALLED ON EMBASSY JULY 12, DURING HIS THIRD VISIT TO USSR. HE DESCRIBED TO EMBOFF SOME OF HIS CONTACTS WITH UNOFFICIAL SOVIET RELIGIOUS GROUPS, INCLUDING BAPTISTS AND PENTECOSTAL CHURCH.

2. GEORGIY VINS. DEMETRUS DESCRIBED HEALTH OF IMPRISONED "INITSIATIVNIK" BAPTIST LEADER GEORGIY VINS AS VERY PRECARIOUS. ACCORDING TO VINS' WIFE, WHOM DEMETRUS SAW RECENTLY, VINS IS SUFFERING FROM UNSPECIFIED ILLNESS WHICH SOVIET PRISON MEDICAL PERSONNEL TREATED WITH LARGE NUMBER OF PENICILLIN INJECTIONS. WIFE ALSO REPORTED THAT VINS WAS SUFFERING TOXIC EFFECTS FROM MERCURY OR MERCURY COMPOUND WHICH ALLEGEDLY HAS BEEN SURREPI-  
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TIOUSLY SPREAD ON HIS BED. AS A RESULT, HE WAS "VIRTUALLY UNRECOGNIZABLE" WHEN SHE WAS PERMITTED A MEETING WITH HIM ABOUT A MONTH AGO.

2. DEMETRUS REPORTED THAT THE "INITSIATIVNIKI" BAPTISTS HAD PUBLISHED ISSUE NO. 2 OF THEIR PUBLICATION "VESTNIK ISTINY" AND THAT NO. 3 AND 4 WERE DUE

TO APPEAR SHORTLY. IT WILL BE RECALLED THAT THE FIRST ISSUE OF THIS JOURNAL ATTRACTED ATTENTION BY ITS PRINTED, PROFESSIONAL FORMAT (SEE REFTTEL). UNOFFICIAL BAPTISTS WERE DESCRIBED AS TIGHTLY ORGANIZED BUT AS SUFFERING SOME DEFECTIONS TO OFFICIAL BAPTIST ORGANIZATION.

3. ACCORDING TO DEMETRUS, TWO PENTECOSTAL CHURCH CONGREGATIONS ARE CURRENTLY ENGAGED IN AN EFFORT TO EMIGRATE TO U.S. ONE, NUMBERING ABOUT 50 MEMBERS, IS LOCATED IN NOVOSIBIRSK AREA OF SIBERIA. THE OTHER, IN NAKHODKA, HAS ABOUT 200 MEMBERS. ALTHOUGH IN RECEIPT OF VYZOVs, THEY HAVE BEEN REPEATEDLY FRUSTRATED BY INABILITY TO FILL OUT SOVIET FORMS PROPERLY DUE TO OFFICIAL HARASSMENT AS WELL AS THEIR INEXPERIENCE AND LACK OF SOPHISTICATION. AS A RESULT OF THEIR PAPERS BEING CONSTANTLY RETURNED BY LOCAL OFFICIALS FOR INCOMPLETE OR IMPROPER ANSWERS, THOSE GROUPS SENT DELEGATIONS TO MOSCOW TO SEEK ASSISTANCE.  
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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**TAGS:** PINT, SHUM, CSCE, (VINS, GEORGITY)  
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**Review Markings:**  
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